



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/903,448	07/10/2001	Kuriacose Joseph	2050.001USS	9025
44367	7590	01/06/2012	EXAMINER	
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER/OPEN TV P.O. BOX 2938 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0938			IDOWU, OLUGBENGA O	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2425	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			01/06/2012	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

uspto@slwip.com
request@slwip.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/903,448	Applicant(s) JOSEPH ET AL.
	Examiner OLUGBENGA IDOWU	Art Unit 2425

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 October 2011.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on _____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
- 4) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 5) Claim(s) 68-97,99-103,105-138,246 and 247 is/are pending in the application.
- 5a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 7) Claim(s) 68-97, 99-103, 105-138, and 246-247 is/are rejected.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 9) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 10) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-152)

Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

Allowable Subject Matter

The indicated allowability of claims 68- 97, 99-103, 105 – 138 and 246 – 247 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) Tagawa. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 68 – 78, 82 – 83, 85 – 94, 97 – 104, 106 – 116, 120 – 121, 123 – 132, 135 – 138 and 246 - 263 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Florin, patent number: 5 583 560 in view of Tagawa, patent number: 4 866 515 .

As per claims 68, 87, 101, 106, 125, 246- 248 and 253 – 263, Florin teaches using a server to transmit to a client both a television program and an application (providing videos and interactive data to clients, col. 8, lines 52 - 54) display of interactive information associated with the television program while the television program is being displayed at the client (receiving and displaying video and interactive data, col. 8, line 61 – col. 9, line 1);

Art Unit: 2425

The interactive information to show or describe an item to a television viewer
(commercials, col. 23, lines 54 - 56)

Detecting, at the server, a signal representing a viewer interaction with the
interactive information, the viewer interaction indicating a selection of the item (server
receiving information, col. 24, lines 33 - 42) and

In response to the viewer interaction, causing an order for the item to be placed
(ordering product, col. 24, lines 8, lines 32 - 34)

Florin does not teach a computing application comprising executable code.

In an analogous art, Tagawa teaches a stream comprising executable code to be executed at the client to cause display of interactive information (multiplexing video, audio and software signals, the software being executed at the receiver to generate interactive data, col. 2, lines 20 - 31, col. 4, lines 17 - 20, col. 7, lines 45 – 52, col. 9, lines 10 – 27, lines 55 - 62)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Florin's interactive system by including a system that executes interactive data for the advantages of improving user's experience while interacting with the system.

As per claims 69, 88, 107 and 126, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein the viewer interaction causes display of instructions to solicit information necessary to place the order (Florin: requesting PIN from user, col. 24, lines 29 - 32).

As per claims 70, 89, 108 and 127, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein the information is solicited using one or more of an on-screen display and voice instructions (Florin: requesting PIN, col. 24, lines 29 – 32 Fig. 49, 420).

As per claims 71, 90, 109, 128 and 249, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein the viewer interaction is by way of a single command (Florin: pressing the select button, col. 23, lines 56 - 61).

As per claims 72, 91, 102, 110, 129 and 250, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein the single command is selected from the group consisting of:
selecting of a single button (Florin: pressing the select button, col. 23, lines 56 - 61); and
pressing of a single button on a TV remote control.

As per claims 73, 92, 103, 111, 130 and 251, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein causing the order to be placed is achieved by using:
information related to the item and viewer related personal information (Florin: sending order to headend, col. 9, lines 9 - 12).

As per claims 74, 93, 112 and 131, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein the personal information includes at least one of the group consisting of the viewer's name, address, method of payment and payment account number (Florin: confirming order and delivery time, col. 24, lines 40 - 41).

As per claims 75, 94, 113, 132 and 252, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein the personal information is stored in memory at the client (Florin: memory, col. 9, line 65 – col. 10, line 1).

As per claims 76 and 114, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein the system further includes a local computer in communication with the client and associated storage and wherein the method further comprises:
using the client to retrieve information from one or more of the local computer and the associated storage (Florin: external CD-ROM, col. 10, lines 13 - 17)

As per claims 77 and 115, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein the method further comprises: controlling the client by means of the local computer (Florin: external CD-ROM, col. 10, lines 13 - 17).

As per claims 78 and 116, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein the local computer is part of a local area network (Florin: external CD-ROM, col. 10, lines 13 - 17).

As per claims 82, 97, 120 and 135, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach further comprising:
sending an order confirmation to the user to confirm the order (Florin: order confirmation, col. 24, lines 40 - 41)

As per claims 83, 98, 104, 121 and 136, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein the server is configured to provide data in a series of multiplexed packets, ones of which contain data representing the video, and others of which represent the computing application (Florin: sending video and data to users, col. 10, lines 32 – 44, col. 8, line 52 - col. 9, line 4).

As per claims 85, 99, 123 and 137, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein the client includes a client computer and an auxiliary processor, the method comprising:

using the auxiliary data processor to process data representing the video, and using the client computer to execute the computing application (Florin: processing, col. 8, line 52 – col. 9, line 13).

As per claims 86, 100, 124 and 138, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach wherein the client computer and the auxiliary data processor are contained in a set top box (Florin: transceiver 54, col. 8, line 1)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2425

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 79 -81, 95 – 96, 117 – 119 and 133 – 134 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.

103(a) as being unpatentable over Florin, patent number: 5 583 560 in view of Tagawa, patent number: 4 866 515 in further view of Coddington, patent number: 5 410 343.

As per claims 79 -81, 95 – 96, 117 – 119 and 133 – 134, the combination of Florin and Tagawa teach an interactive system that transmits video and data to a client and allows the client to order products.

The combination does not teach a system that transmits the user's orders through a telephone system.

In an analogous art, Coddington teaches a system that communicates with the server through a telephone system (ADSL and PSTN systems, col. 6, lines 11 - 47)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the combination of Florin and Tagawa by including a communication system based on telephone infrastructure, as described in Coddington's VOD system, for the advantages of making the system compatible with one way transmission systems.

3. Claims 84, 105 and 122 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Florin, patent number: 5 583 560 in view of Tagawa, patent number: 4 866 515 in further view of Banker, patent number: US 5 485 221.

As per claims 84, 105 and 122, The combination of Florin and Tagawa teach an interactive system that transmits video and data to a client and allows the client to order products.

The combination does not teach a system that transmits the data multiple times.

In an analogous art, Banker teaches wherein the computing application is repetitively transmitted during times that the video is transmitted (repeatedly transmitting data, col. 17, lines 40 - 47).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the combination of Florin and Tagawa by retransmitting data to a user, as described by Banker's television system, for the advantages of ensuring correct reception of data.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to OLUGBENGA IDOWU whose telephone number is (571)270-1450. The examiner can normally be reached on IFP.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Pendleton can be reached on 5712727527. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/OLUGBENGA IDOWU/
Examiner, Art Unit 2425

/KIEU OANH T BUI/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2425